

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Prince & Izant Company

Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership

The Prince & Izant Company Designs A Lean Plant Layout

Client Profile:

The Prince & Izant Company, founded in 1927, manufactures products for the metal-joining industry, pre-forming shapes by utilizing brazing alloys and other metals. Located in Cleveland, Ohio, the company employs less than 50 people.

Situation:

The Prince & Izant Company was preparing to consolidate two plants into a single, newer facility. The company hoped to eliminate many of the non-value-added activities associated with operating separate plants, such as communication issues and transportation problems. The Prince & Izant Company needed a manufacturing plant layout that would guarantee the most efficient flow of materials in the new plant. The company relied on CAMP, Inc. (CAMP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, to help it create a plan that would better organize equipment based on use, enhance utilization of labor, and reduce the amount of space required for operations.

Solution:

CAMP created an arrangement for the manufacturing equipment in The Prince & Izant Company's new plant. CAMP incorporated many lean manufacturing concepts into the design to reduce material handling and effectively drive raw material through the facility.

CAMP consultants analyzed the current state of the company's two facilities to locate any bottlenecks or stumbling blocks. Prince & Izant was encouraged to organize operating teams, creating cells in which one person is responsible for operating several machines. This approach helped to enhance space utilization, improve quality, and decentralize inspection stations.

Next, CAMP conducted an ABC analysis to examine the most effective flow of material through the plant and determine storage locations. An ABC analysis examines product activity in terms of units-per-day. Fast-moving items were placed within arms reach of the associates, while slower moving items were placed in the least accessible stock location. The analysis helped Prince & Izant minimize material handling and motion--both non-value-added activities. Because the company handles precious metals such as gold and silver, plant security was an area of concern. At the old facility, only the stock room had been secured for storage of these metals. The CAMP plan called for the entire facility to be secured, from the dock doors to the back of the plant.

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Results:

Designed and implemented a lean plant layout.

Reduced inventory by \$20,000.

Saved \$50,000 in labor costs.

Secured plant facilities.

Testimonial:

“The CAMP staff was a group of very professional individuals that worked swiftly to get the job done. Their completed manufacturing plant layout was very thorough and helpful.”

R. J. Mulford, Managing Director